

## Application for Link-Up Florida and Lifeline Telephone Assistance Based on Household Income

The Link-Up Florida and Lifeline Telephone Assistance programs are available to low-income, residential households. ***Lifeline*** reduces the local basic telephone service charge up to \$13.50 monthly. ***Link-Up*** reduces the first installation and service transfer fees by 50% up to \$30. ***Lifeline/Link-Up*** is only available for one telephone landline per address.

To qualify under income guidelines, your household income must be no greater than 135% of the federal poverty guidelines. Documentation showing your household income ***must*** accompany this application.

<b>Name (please print):</b>  <b>Last four digits of Social Security Number:</b> _____	<b>Name as it appears on phone bill (please print):</b>  <b>Telephone Number</b> (must be in the name of the person requesting service): (        ) _____ <b>Name of your telephone company:</b> _____ <b>Are you applying for Link-Up?</b> _____ <i>Contact your company for the correct process of requesting Link-Up</i> <b>If you are <u>not</u> a customer of BellSouth, Sprint, or Verizon, please contact your telephone company to apply for Lifeline/Link-Up.</b>
<b>Address (number and street):</b>  <b>Apt./Lot/Unit/Room #:</b> (circle one)  <b>City:</b>  <b>State:</b>  <b>Zip Code:</b>	<b>How many people live in your household?</b>  <b>Total Number:</b> _____  <b>Number of children under age of 18:</b> _____
<b>What is your total monthly/yearly household income?</b>  \$ _____ (monthly/yearly) <i>(Please see back for income guideline chart)</i>  <b>Number of people receiving income:</b> _____	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Please be sure to enclose the following in order to expedite processing:</b></p> <div style="list-style-type: none;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Application completed and signed  <input type="checkbox"/> Proof each person's income (<i>See back for examples</i>)  <input type="checkbox"/> Recent copy of phone bill         </div>

**Please read the following statement carefully before signing.**

I certify under penalty of law that I am the applicant for the Link-Up Florida and Lifeline telephone assistance program requested above. I agree to notify the telephone company when I am no longer eligible for this assistance program. The information provided above and its attachments are true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Applicant Signature**

*Please return this form to:  
(Faxes are not accepted)*

**Office of the Public Counsel  
c/o The Florida Legislature  
111 West Madison Street, Room 812  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400**

*For more information call:*

**1-800-540-7039**

<b>Income Guideline Chart</b>		<b>Examples of Proof of Household Income and Supporting Documents</b>
135% of the Poverty Level		
<b>Size of Household / Total Household Income</b>		
	(yearly)	
One person	\$13,230	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Security Statement of Benefits</li> <li>• U.S. Income Tax Return</li> <li>• W-2 Wage and Tax Statements</li> </ul>
Two person	17,820	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food Stamp, Medicaid, Public Housing, LIHEAP, TANF, SSI, and WAGES eligibility determination letters <u>that show the income of the household</u></li> </ul>
Three person	22,410	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veteran's Administration Statement of Benefit</li> </ul>
Four person	27,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bank Statement that shows the income of the household</li> </ul>
Five person	31,590	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unemployment Statement of Benefits</li> </ul>
Six person	36,180	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workmen's Compensation Statement of Benefit</li> </ul>
Seven person	40,770	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Divorce Decree</li> <li>• Child Support Decree</li> </ul>
Eight person	45,360	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other official documents that state your income</li> </ul>
*each additional person	\$3,400	<b>You only need to send the document(s) that apply to your household</b>

# Link-Up Florida and Lifeline Telephone Assistance Program

## What is it?

- ***Lifeline*** is a public assistance program that reduces the monthly telephone bill by up to \$13.50. (The reduction is in the form of a credit and is deducted from the basic service charge)
- ***Link-Up*** is a public assistance program that reduces the cost of the telephone installation and service transfer fee by 50% up to the amount of \$30. **Contact your telephone company to find out the correct process for requesting Link-Up.** (The reduction is in the form of a credit and is deducted from the service installation or transfer charge)
- ***Lifeline and Link-Up*** is available for one telephone line per household. Phone service must be registered in the name of the applicant. (Cell phone users and subscribers to companies other than BellSouth, Sprint or Verizon should contact their service provider to apply for the programs)

## Who is eligible?

- Low income households. Income is determined by the federal poverty guidelines which are based on the number of people in the household and the total amount of money received by each member in the household.
- Households participating in the public assistance programs below must contact their local telephone company if the request for participation is based on any one of the following:

**Food Stamps** (DCF-Department of Children and Families)

**Medicaid** (DCF-Department of Children and Families)

**Federal Public Housing Assistance**-Section 8 (HUD Housing and Urban Development)

**Supplemental Security Income** (SSI Social Security Administration)

**Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program-LIHEAP** (DCA-Department of Community Affairs)

**Temporary Assistance to Needy Families-TANF** (DCF Department of Children and Families)

**Work and Gain Economic Sufficiency (WAGES)**

**National School Lunch Free Lunch** (BellSouth, Sprint and Verizon Subscribers Only) DOE-Department of Education

**LIFELINE/LINK-UP ONLY: 1-800-540-7039**

**Please take a moment to read this notice:**

If you have a discounted calling plan or calling package with your local telephone company, it is possible that your telephone company will not allow you to take advantage of the Lifeline Link-Up reduction in your monthly charges.

Check with your local company to determine the kind of service you currently have and if it prevents your household from receiving the Lifeline/Link-Up reduction in the basic service charge.

**You may terminate your calling plan or package without penalty in order to take advantage of the Lifeline reduction in the basic service charge.**